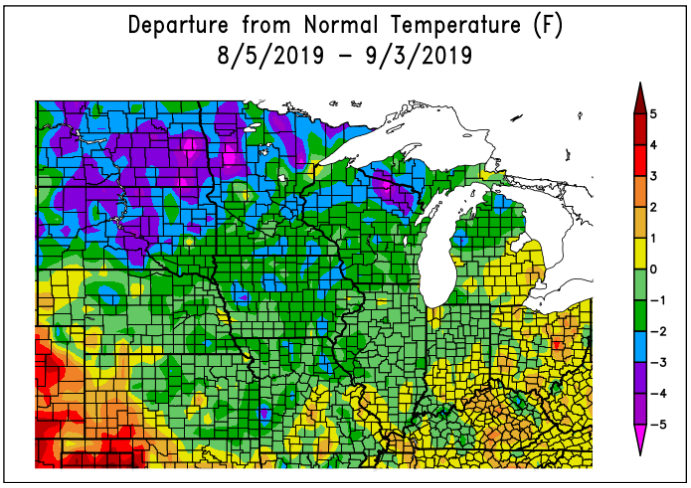
USDA Midwest Climate Hub
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

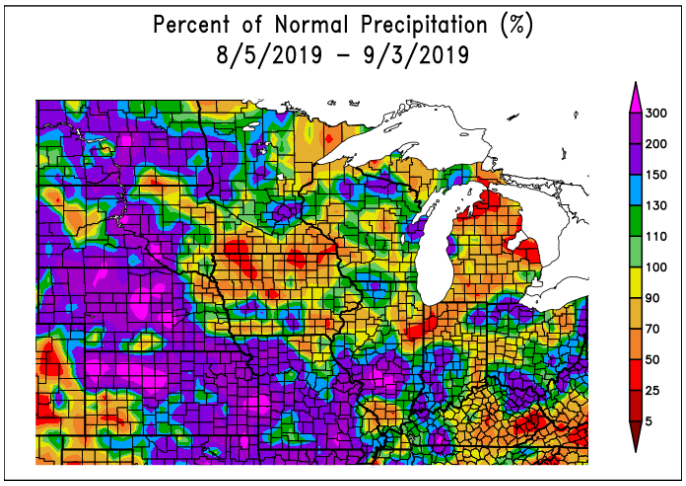
Sept 4, 2019

Midwest Ag-Focus Climate Outlook

Current Conditions

Temperatures around the region have been mostly below average over the last 30 days from 4-6°F cooler than average over the Dakotas to slightly above in the far southwest and southeast of the region. Precipitation continues its split personality: The plains states and parts of Missouri to Ohio were well above average to as much as double average precipitation. Iowa to Michigan has been well below average.



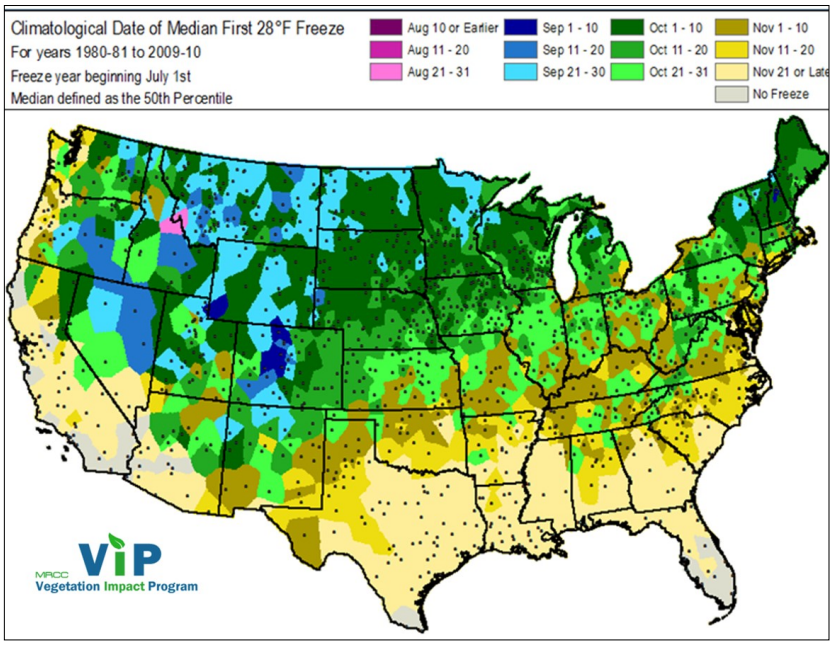


Images from High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC), Online Data Services: ACIS Climate Maps. Generated: 9/4/2019

Impacts

Probably the largest concern currently is the slow crop development, which was not helped by the recent cooler period. Late planting has left crops well behind average progress. Overall, average temperatures through the summer have not helped improve progress. Soybeans are the slowest to pod set in data since the mid-1990s at 86% nationally (see pg. 3). This is behind the next closest of 92% in 2013. Corn is similarly delayed though only the 3rd latest to dent stage at 41%. Many other crops are similarly delayed, including specialty crops.

Because of the delay most of the region will need to reach well into October before the first freeze for row crops. There are no indications currently on when the first freeze is likely. The best guide is to review average freeze dates.

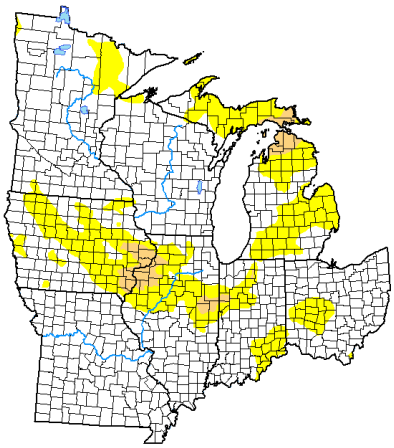


Frost/Freeze Guidance provided by the Midwestern Regional Climate Center.

(Impacts Cont.) Dryness from Iowa into parts of the eastern Corn Belt has developed into Moderate Drought (D1) conditions on the US Drought Monitor. This dryness late in the season has less of an overall impact on yields, though will likely have some impact due to stress on crops. The dryness may also be a benefit in helping shut down some crops earlier.

Wetness is still a problem in parts of South Dakota and Nebraska limiting some harvest and hay cutting. The continued wetness is likely to cause some problems in later crop harvest also.

U.S. Drought Monitor
USDA Midwest Climate Hub



August 27, 2019
(Released Thursday, Aug. 29, 2019)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	75.85	24.15	2.79	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 08-20-2019	75.49	24.51	2.04	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 05-28-2019	98.68	1.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2019	99.21	0.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-25-2018	79.61	20.39	9.31	1.86	0.40	0.01
One Year Ago 08-28-2018	59.32	40.68	17.78	7.68	2.21	0.61

Intensity:
None
D0 Abnormally Dry
D1 Moderate Drought
D2 Severe Drought
D3 Extreme Drought
D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

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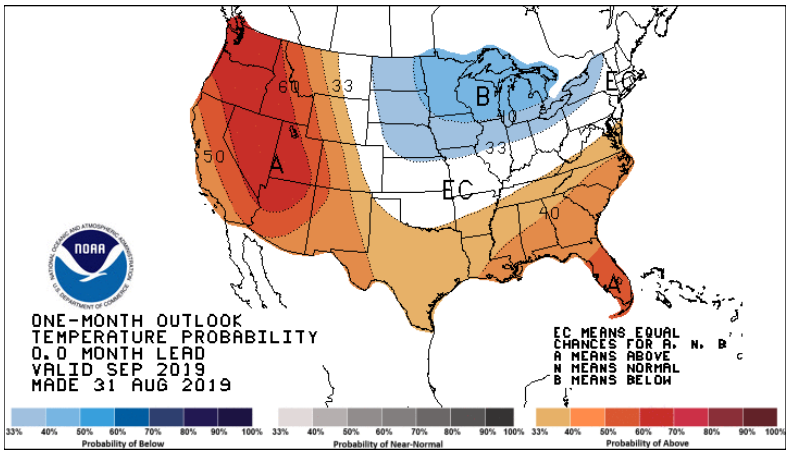
NCEI/NOAA

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

[United States Drought Monitor]

Outlook

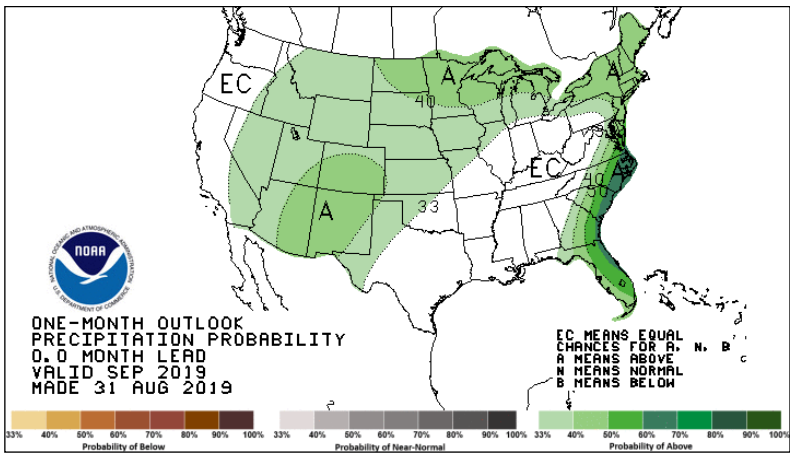


The new 30 day outlooks from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center provide a set of interesting maps. The September outlook has slightly increased chances for below-average temperatures over much of the region, except for southern areas. There is largely similar coverage for slightly increased chances for precipitation.

The interesting feature is that the temperature maps are in contrast to the most recent 8-14 day outlook and 3-4 week outlook released on August 30, which lean warm for their periods. Therefore, I would not be too concerned about the below-average temperature outlook at this time.

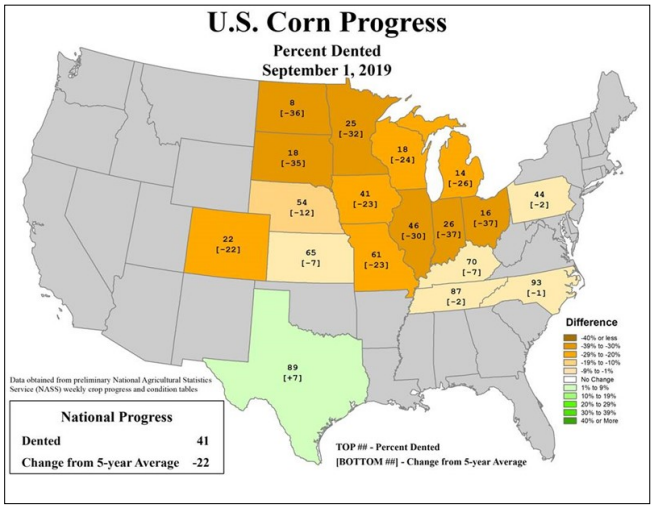
These outlooks provide no specific indications on first freeze. We are at a point where we should start watching shorter outlooks and models for freeze chances in the far northern areas where we are reaching climatological periods for this to occur. Corn and beans still do need some time to develop. Avoiding longer periods of cooler than average is good now to help crops reach maturity.

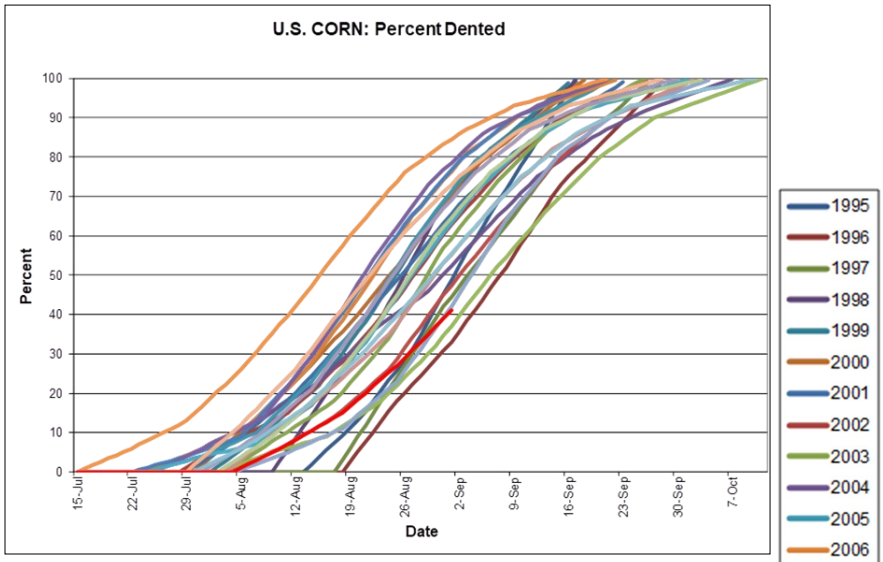
The precipitation would be welcomed over the driest areas to help final crop development. The dry areas would unlikely become too wet for harvest conditions. The wetness for harvest is likely to be a problem in the wettest areas of South Dakota and parts of Nebraska and possibly a few other small spots. Crops will need to sit until later in the fall to mature and dry. Wetness would not be helpful with the already delayed harvest.

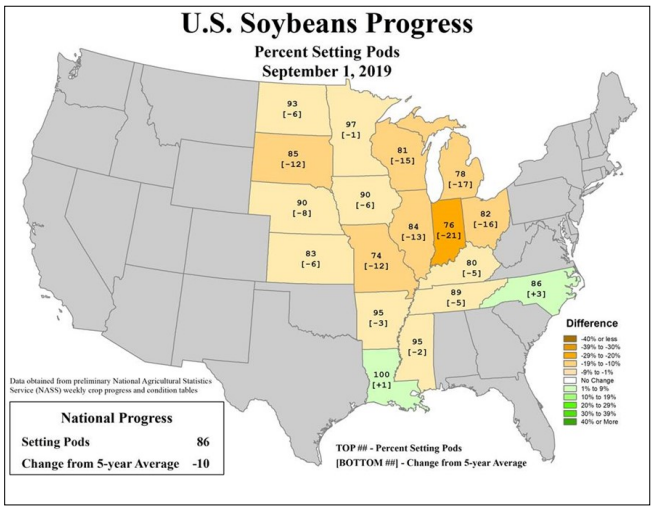


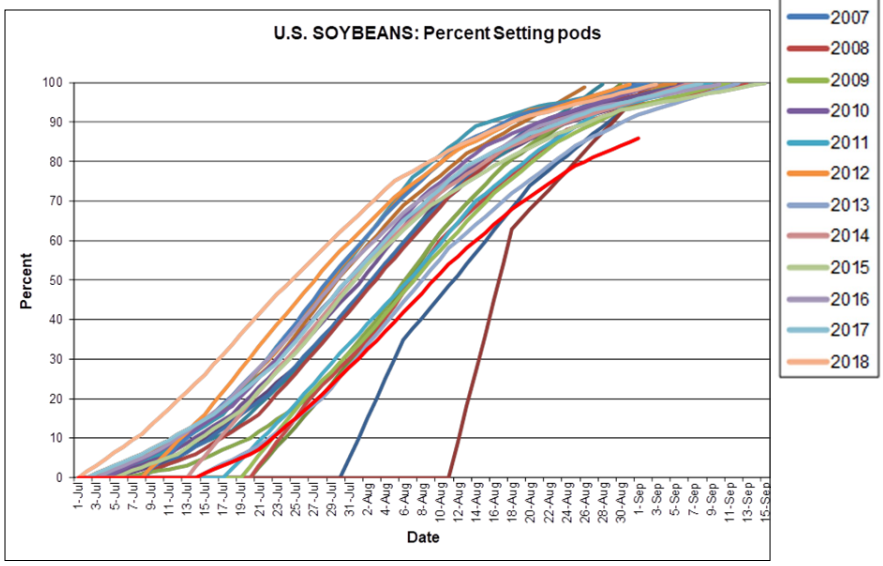
[Outlooks provided by the Climate Prediction Center]

Corn and Soybean Progress









U.S. Agriculture Progress Maps Supplied by Brad Rippey, USDA [World Agricultural Outlook Board](#).

Partners and Contributors

[United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)](#)
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[National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC)](#)
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[High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC)](#)

For More Information

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